

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Public Works Department

TO: David Cronin, City Engineer
FROM: Abigail Bradshaw, Intern
DATE: August 1st, 2017
RE: Agenda Item for Transportation Commission 8/7/2017:
Traffic Calming Request – Lincoln Street, between 3rd Street and 7th Street

Background

In May 2017, the Transportation Commission received a request for Lincoln Street between 3rd and 7th Street to be considered for traffic calming measures. A few years ago, a request was made to lower the speed limit on Lincoln Street from 30 mph to 25 mph. New signs with a posted speed limit of 25 mph were installed on Lincoln Street between 3rd Street and 7th Street. Residents have recently stated that speed limits are still not being honored in this area.

Details

On Lincoln Street from 3rd Street to 4th Street, there are no sidewalks. From 4th Street to 7th Street, there is sidewalk on the south side of Lincoln Street.

Lincoln Street from 3rd Street to 7th Street						
Street Classification	Posted Speed Limit	Safe Route to School	Bus / Transit Route	Douglas County Bikeway Plan Route	Sidewalk along Street	Street Cross Section/Pavement Data
Local	25 mph	Yes	No	No	YES, SOUTH SIDE	Curb and Gutter, V-Ditch, Asphalt, 18 foot width, residential area

Traffic counts and 85th percentile speed data was obtained for Lincoln Street in this region during July of 2017. The 85th percentile speed of traffic on Lincoln Street between 3rd Street and 7th Street averages 34 mph, and, the 24-hour two-way traffic averages 356 vehicles. The City of Lawrence Traffic Calming Policy is listed below:

Traffic-Calming Devices may be permitted on "local" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, and under any one of the following conditions:

- A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
- B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 1000, or

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- C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
- D. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B, C or D above are satisfied to the extent of 80% or more of the stated values.



24-hour traffic volumes and cut-thru traffic numbers do not meet criteria for installing traffic-calming devices. Average 85th percentile traffic speeds on Lincoln Street between 3rd Street and 7th Street are 9 mph over the posted speed limit of 25 mph, and therefore meet condition "A" of the City of Lawrence Traffic Calming Policy.

Action Request

It is staff recommendation the Transportation Commission approve the request for installation of traffic calming devices on Lincoln Street between 3rd Street and 7th Street.

Attachments:

Traffic Calming Policy
Request Email



TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY

Resolution No. 6602, August 23, 2005

1. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may include but are not limited to Traffic-Calming Circles, Speed Humps and Speed Cushions, Speed Tables, Partial Diverters, Full Diverters, Center Island Narrowing, Chokers, and Road Closures; however, roundabouts are traffic management devices and are not subject to this policy.
2. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may be permitted on "local" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, and under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 1000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B or C above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
3. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES (except SPEED HUMPS) may be permitted on "collector" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 3000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. More than 50% of the frontage of the roadway consists of residential lots with the houses facing the roadway in question, or
 - E. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B, C or D above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
4. Traffic data will be collected with city personnel using city equipment only. In the event that a requested location does not meet the minimum requirements as stated in 2 or 3 above, subsequent requests will not be considered for a minimum of one year.
5. The Lawrence-Douglas County Fire & Medical Department, the Police Department, the Public Works Department and the Traffic Safety Commission must review all requests for TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES before being presented to the City Commission.
6. If a project is approved by the City Commission, the City Commission will determine financing of the construction. The City Commission may require 0-100% of the costs to be paid by the group or neighborhood making the request.
7. After a project is approved and funded by the City Commission, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES will only be constructed at a location if 70% or more of the property owners within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the installation or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
8. Once installed, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may only be removed at a location if more than 70% of the property owners and residents within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the removal or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
9. TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES may initially be landscaped (if appropriate) by the city, provided that the group or neighborhood making the request agrees in writing to maintain the landscaping or pursuant to the payment of a landscape maintenance fee. No privately installed landscaping is permitted unless approved by the city in writing.

Zachary Baker

From: Tyra Crouch <littlebluestem.crouch@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 5:03 PM
To: David Cronin
Subject: Speed Limit Challenges on [REDACTED]

Categories: Transportation Commission

Hello,

My name is Tyra Kalman and I live at [REDACTED]. Over the last two years I have been in contact with the Lawrence Police Department regarding the traffic issues on our street. Officer David Ernst called me today to chat and suggested I contact your office. A few years ago, the city put in several stop signs to slow traffic (which was helpful). We have a 25 mph speed limit on [REDACTED] but it's not being honored by many who drive on [REDACTED]. We have children on the street, nearly every other house and we (I am speaking collectively for my neighbors) are concerned for our children's safety. Yesterday, my neighbor and I witnessed a red truck with a Collin (I think) Drywall sign on the side driving well over the limit. When I pointed to the 25 mph sign and said slow down, he sped up and revved his engine. A few years ago we had a driver take out our mailbox. I promise, I'm not a crazy, but I am very concerned. The LPD has been pretty amazing at responding to my calls. They have sent officers out to sit in the church parking lot just [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to slow down traffic. It totally works! But only when they are there and obviously the LPD can't be there all the time. An officer came by yesterday and said that he lives on [REDACTED] and understands first hand our concerns. I've noticed him patrolling the neighborhood a lot today and I am so grateful. Is there anyway we can start a conversation about some type of traffic control? Maybe a speed bump? With school out and all the kids home for the summer, I am worried that something awful could happen. Our kids know to stay out of the street but again, someone ran over our mailbox a few years back so there's that.

Thank you for your time. I appreciate the city taking community concerns to heart and I look forward to hearing how we can move forward.

Thank you again,
Tyra Kalman